

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

UNIT: Century Station
DATE: June 10, 2011 (Friday)
TIME: 1720 hours
LOCATION: [REDACTED] Las Flores Avenue, Apt. [REDACTED] Lynwood, CA 90262
URN#: 911-08897-2112-058
IAB#: FO2290168

NATURE OF INCIDENT:

On June 10, 2011, Century Station Deputy [REDACTED], (assigned to Century Station for [REDACTED] and his partner Christopher Cenderelli, [REDACTED] (ride-along from Men's Central Jail) responded to a priority domestic violence call at [REDACTED] Las Flores Avenue, Apartment [REDACTED] Lynwood. As the deputies arrived at the location, they observed three male Hispanic adults and two female Hispanic adults upstairs in apartment [REDACTED]. The adults were engaged in a heated argument and were yelling and screaming. Deputies [REDACTED] and Cenderelli, along with their sister unit (Deputies [REDACTED] # [REDACTED], and Hancock # [REDACTED]), approached the open front door and called one of the male Hispanics to exit the apartment. The male Hispanic (later identified as [REDACTED]) complied and was detained outside of the apartment by Deputy Hancock. Deputy [REDACTED] called out a second male (later identified as Suspect Martinez). Suspect Martinez began to walk toward the deputies and stopped as Suspect Reyes began to yell.

Suspect Martinez began yelling at the deputies "Fuck You, for what," as Suspect Reyes yelled, "Fuck You guys, get out of my house!" Deputy [REDACTED] stepped into the apartment to deescalate the situation and prevent Suspect Martinez from becoming assaultive. As Deputy [REDACTED] stepped into the apartment, he could smell the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the breath and person of Suspect Martinez. Deputy [REDACTED] quickly took control of Suspect Martinez by taking control of his arms.

While Deputy [REDACTED] was dealing with Suspect Martinez, the third male Hispanic (later identified as Suspect Christopher Reyes) yelled "get out of my house, get out of my house." Suspect Martinez who had calmed down, immediately pulled his right hand away from Deputy [REDACTED] raised it over his head as he attempted to turn and face Deputy [REDACTED]. Deputy [REDACTED] held Suspect Martinez' left hand and took him down to the floor in a controlled motion. Suspect Martinez was then handcuffed without incident.

IAB Note: Refer to Exhibit A, for a Use of Force Report generated for Suspect Martinez, by Century Station.

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While Deputy [REDACTED] was engaged with Suspect Martinez, Deputy Cenderelli had stepped into the apartment. Deputy Cenderelli took control of Suspect Reyes by grasping his hands and placing them behind his back. Deputy Cenderelli exited the apartment with Suspect Reyes, followed by Suspect Martinez and Deputy [REDACTED]. Suspect Martinez, although physically compliant, continued screaming "Fuck the Sheriff, you ain't shit, you guys are bitches, fuck you." Deputy Hancock remained upstairs with [REDACTED] and the two females.

As Deputy Cenderelli and Suspect Reyes reached the bottom of the stairs, Suspect Reyes tried to pull away from Deputy Cenderelli's grasp. Deputy Cenderelli pushed Suspect Reyes against the exterior wall of the complex and with the assistance of Deputy [REDACTED] attempted to handcuff Suspect Reyes. Suspect Reyes became more agitated and began yelling, "Let me go motherfucker, I'm gonna punch you!" Suspect Reyes pulled his hands free, turned, and punched at Deputy Cenderelli's face. Deputy Cenderelli turned away and the punch by Suspect Reyes hit him in the upper chest. Deputy Cenderelli countered by hitting Suspect Reyes once in the right side of his face with a closed fist. Deputy Cenderelli positioned himself behind Suspect Reyes, took hold of his right wrist, and placed his left forearm against his right triceps area, using a Department approved control hold. Suspect Reyes continued to try and pull away but was unsuccessful. Deputy Cenderelli ordered Suspect Reyes to stop fighting but was ignored.

Deputy [REDACTED] had by this time positioned himself to the left of Suspect Reyes and took hold of Suspect Reyes' left arm. Deputy Cenderelli and [REDACTED] agreed to take Suspect Reyes to the ground to end his combativeness. While holding Suspect Reyes by his arms, they attempted to place him on the ground. Deputy Cenderelli lost his grip of Suspect Reyes, causing Suspect Reyes to fall face down onto the cement. Suspect Reyes pulled both of his arms underneath his body and refused to be handcuffed. The deputies continued ordering Suspect Reyes to stop resisting but he refused. The deputies, with the assistance of Deputy [REDACTED] were subsequently able to overcome Suspect Reyes' resistance and placed his hands behind his back. Suspect Reyes was handcuffed without further incident. **(Refer to Exhibit B).**

The suspect complained of pain to his right arm and was transported to Saint Francis Medical Center, where he was treated for a fracture of the right arm by Doctor Michael Stephen, under patient number [REDACTED] **(Refer to Exhibit C)**

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INVOLVED PERSONNEL:

[REDACTED] Deputy, # [REDACTED]
Century Station
[REDACTED]
Field Operations Region II

Employee's Work History:

Date of Employment: [REDACTED]
Date Assigned to CEN: [REDACTED]
Prior Shooting Incident(s): [REDACTED]
Prior Force Incidents: [REDACTED]

Cenderelli, Christopher - Deputy, # [REDACTED]
Men's Central Jail
Custody Division
Unit 212E3

Employee's Work History:

Date of Employment: 11-07-07
Date Assigned to MCJ: 03-13-08
Prior Shooting Incident(s): [REDACTED]
Prior Force Incidents: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Deputy, # [REDACTED]
Century Station
Unit #212E2
Field Operations Region II

Employee's Work History:

Date of Employment: 05-04-05
Date Assigned to CEN: 12-01-05
Prior Shooting Incident(s): [REDACTED]
Prior Force Incidents: [REDACTED]

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INVOLVED SUSPECTS:

Reyes, Christopher, MH/25, Booking #2771083
DOB: 12-06-84
[REDACTED]

Booking Charges: 69 P.C.
CII: [REDACTED] Main#: [REDACTED]

Involved Suspect Criminal History:

Suspect Reyes' criminal history [REDACTED]
CCHRS printout included with this review. (Refer to Exhibit D)

Martinez, Edson Gersain, MH/26, Booking # 2771086
DOB: 10-28-85
Address: [REDACTED]
Booking Charges: 69 P.C.
CII: [REDACTED] Main#: [REDACTED]

Involved Suspect Criminal History:

Suspect Martinez [REDACTED]
CCHRS printout included with this review. (Refer to Exhibit D)

DEPUTY WITNESS:

Deputy Norma Silva, # [REDACTED], responded to the scene and interviewed the [REDACTED] of Suspect Reyes. [REDACTED] (FH/ [REDACTED]) told deputy Silva she has a [REDACTED] with Suspect Reyes and they live in apartment [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was in a violent argument with Suspect Reyes because he had been home all day drinking alcohol with his friends. When she arrived home from work, Suspect Reyes told her to take his friend home; she refused. Suspect Reyes became irate and verbally attacked her. He slammed doors and punched the walls. [REDACTED] said Suspect Reyes "gets violent when he drinks alcohol."

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As Deputy Silva was talking to [REDACTED], she observed Suspect Reyes staring at [REDACTED] and mouthing the words "Fuck You, bitch, Fuck You," numerous times. Suspect Reyes' [REDACTED], who had responded to the scene, pleaded with her [REDACTED] to calm down and listen to the deputies. Suspect Reyes ignored his [REDACTED] and continued to say "Fuck You, bitch, Fuck You." Deputy Silva moved [REDACTED] to another location out of view of Suspect Reyes to continue her interview. (Refer to Exhibit B)

NON DEPARTMENT WITNESSES:

[REDACTED], MH/25, [REDACTED] of Suspect Reyes, DOB [REDACTED] was interviewed by Century Station Sergeant Navarrete on the date of the incident. [REDACTED] said he responded to the apartment because his [REDACTED] had received a telephone call from the [REDACTED] of Suspect Reyes, claiming she and Suspect Reyes were having a heated argument. [REDACTED] was waiting for Suspect Reyes to gather his clothing to leave the apartment. The deputies arrived and had their weapons drawn. The deputies holstered their weapons and made contact with the disturbing party. Suspect Reyes continued to argue with his [REDACTED] as he was being contacted by deputies.

[REDACTED] was placed in handcuffs and escorted outside of the apartment. He remained on the second floor of the complex. He observed Suspect Reyes and Suspect Martinez being led downstairs by deputies. He then heard yelling coming from the ground floor. [REDACTED] looked over the rail from the second floor and saw his [REDACTED] lying on the floor surrounded by deputies who blocked [REDACTED]'s view. He did not see if Suspect Reyes was fighting because his view was blocked. (Refer to Exhibit E)

[REDACTED], FH/16, (DOB [REDACTED]) was interviewed by Century Station Sergeant Navarrete on the date of the incident. [REDACTED] lives in apartment [REDACTED] of the complex and said she observed deputies struggling with Suspect Reyes, because he would not allow himself to be handcuffed. The deputies then took Suspect Reyes down to the ground. The deputies hit Suspect Reyes in the eye and he was handcuffed. She did not make any other observation. (Refer to Exhibit E)

[REDACTED], FH/ 39, (DOB [REDACTED]) was interviewed by Century Station Sergeant Navarrete on the date of the incident. [REDACTED] lives in apartment [REDACTED] of the complex and said she observed deputies walking down the stairs with Suspect Reyes. Suspect Reyes was forced against the wall on the ground floor and subsequently taken down to the ground by deputies. Suspect Reyes was yelling loudly while on the ground. The deputies took both his arms, placed them behind his back, and he was handcuffed. During this encounter Suspect Reyes was screaming loudly but she did not see him fighting. (Refer to Exhibit E)

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INVOLVED EMPLOYEE STATEMENTS:

Deputy Christopher Cenderelli was interviewed on August 24, 2011 by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants Albert Maldonado and Hector Velasquez. The interview was conducted at the Internal Affairs Bureau office in the City of Commerce. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview transcripts have been included with this case.

Deputy Cenderelli said he has been a custody deputy since 2008. He has participated in a minimum of [REDACTED] ride-alongs. Most of his ride-alongs have been at Century Station because he likes the activity there. Having been on numerous ride-alongs, Deputy Cenderelli had discussed tactics with his partner for the night, Deputy [REDACTED]. Deputy [REDACTED] has been assigned to Century for the last [REDACTED]. Responding to the domestic violence call, Deputy Cenderelli was thinking high risk, volatile situation. When the back-up unit arrived, Deputy Cenderelli followed his partner, Deputy [REDACTED] upstairs toward the agitated parties.

Deputy Cenderelli saw Deputy [REDACTED] enter the apartment to contact Suspect Martinez and he entered right after to contact the remaining male, Suspect Reyes. His mind set at the time was to diffuse the situation by taking Suspect Reyes downstairs away from the apartment. He also wanted to control Suspect Reyes who was flailing his arms and cursing at the deputies. Deputy Cenderelli said at the time he entered the apartment, he was unsure if Suspect Reyes had armed himself prior to their arrival or was going to attempt to arm himself now that deputies were on scene.

Prior to entering the room he visually cleared it. He immediately took control of Suspect Reyes' arms and controlled his movements. He performed a quick waistband sweep for weapons and began escorting Suspect Reyes out of the apartment. Deputy Cenderelli said he did not handcuff him, at this time, because Suspect Reyes was walking out without being forced. Suspect Reyes was still cursing but was not being resistive.

As Deputy Cenderelli neared the bottom of the steps with Suspect Reyes, Suspect Reyes attempted to pull away from his grasp. Deputy Cenderelli used his momentum to push Suspect Reyes into the exterior wall. Deputy Cenderelli said Suspect Reyes was cursing at him and telling him he was going to punch him. Suspect Reyes turned to his right and attempted to hit Deputy Cenderelli in the face with his left fist. Deputy Cenderelli saw the punch coming and moved his face. Suspect Reyes' punch landed on Deputy Cenderelli's right upper chest area. Deputy Cenderelli countered by using his closed right fist to hit Suspect Reyes in the right side of his face (eye area).

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Deputy Cenderelli then placed Suspect Reyes in a control hold by holding his right wrist and placing his forearm against his right triceps area. Suspect Reyes attempted to break free of the grasp but was unsuccessful. Deputy Cenderelli continued to order Suspect Reyes to stop fighting, but Suspect Reyes refused. Deputy Cenderelli asked Deputy [REDACTED] to help him handcuff Suspect Reyes.

Deputy Cenderelli continued to hold Suspect Reyes' right wrist, as Deputy [REDACTED] took hold of the left arm. Because Suspect Reyes was still being uncooperative, they decided to take him down to the ground. Deputy Cenderelli said he used his body weight to force Suspect Reyes to the ground. As Suspect Reyes was going to the ground, Deputy Cenderelli lost his grip on the right wrist. Suspect Reyes placed his right arm under his body as he fell to the ground. Deputy Cenderelli fell to the ground with Suspect Reyes and landed on top of him.

Suspect Reyes had both arms under his body and was holding them tight against his chest. He refused to cooperate with the deputies' orders to be handcuffed. Deputy [REDACTED] was able to pull Suspect Reyes' left arm and place it behind his back. Deputy Cenderelli, with the assistance of Deputy [REDACTED] was able to regain control of Suspect Reyes' right arm. Together they brought his right arm back and handcuffed him without further incident.

Deputy Cenderelli estimated the incident took approximately five to ten seconds to gain control of Suspect Reyes, from the time he punched Deputy Cenderelli, to the time Suspect Reyes was handcuffed.

Deputy [REDACTED] was interviewed on August 24, 2011 by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants Albert Maldonado and Hector Velasquez. The interview was conducted at the Internal Affairs Bureau office in the City of Commerce. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview transcripts have been included with this case.

Deputy [REDACTED] said he was working 212E2 with his partner for the evening, Deputy Hancock (MCJ ride-along). Deputy [REDACTED] said it was his first time working with Deputy Hancock, but had seen him and Deputy Cenderelli at Century Station on numerous occasions riding with other deputies. Deputy [REDACTED] said he responded to an emergent domestic violence call and was the second unit to arrive. As they arrived he saw Deputy [REDACTED] and Deputy Cenderelli walking up the stairs toward the top landing of the apartment complex. Deputy [REDACTED] along with Deputy Hancock ran up the stairs to assist.

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As Deputy [REDACTED] reached the top landing, he observed [REDACTED] walking out of the apartment as instructed by Deputy [REDACTED]. Deputy [REDACTED] was placing handcuffs on Suspect Martinez who was lying on his stomach inside the location. Deputy [REDACTED] instructed Deputy Hancock to control [REDACTED] while he assisted Deputy [REDACTED]. Deputy [REDACTED] told Deputy [REDACTED] he had the situation under control.

Deputy [REDACTED] turned his attention to Deputy Cenderelli who was exiting the location with Suspect Reyes. Deputy Cenderelli was holding Suspect Reyes' hands behind his back as he walked him downstairs. Deputy [REDACTED] followed close behind. As Deputy Cenderelli reached the bottom stair with Suspect Reyes, Deputy [REDACTED] saw Suspect Reyes pull away from Deputy Cenderelli and punch him once with his fist. Deputy [REDACTED] did not see where the punch landed and he immediately went to the left side of Suspect Reyes to try to control him.

Deputy [REDACTED] after observing Suspect Reyes' uncooperative and combative behavior told Deputy Cenderelli "Hey let's bring him to the floor." They took Suspect Reyes to the ground, as Suspect Reyes was still attempting to pull away. Deputy [REDACTED] said he was not focused on what Deputy Cenderelli was doing because [REDACTED] was trying to control Suspect Reyes' left arm.

As the three went down to the ground, Suspect Reyes was placing his hands under his body. Deputy [REDACTED] was able to control the left hand and helped Deputy Cenderelli handcuff the right hand. Deputy [REDACTED] said he did not request paramedics, however, remembers one of his partners requesting them. He also said that at the time of the incident he did not use his radio to request assistance or advise that they were involved in an altercation because he had a hold of Suspect Reyes' left arm and did not want to lose control to key his radio. He also felt that with the number of deputies on the scene the situation was in control.

Deputy [REDACTED] said he did not consider using the pepper spray he carries on his Sam Brown or a taser, because the altercation happened so fast. He and Deputy Cenderelli had their hands on Suspect Reyes and were able to control him in seconds.

Deputy [REDACTED] was interviewed on August 25, 2011 by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeant Albert Maldonado. The interview was conducted at the Internal Affairs Bureau office in the City of Commerce. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview transcripts have been included with this case.

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Deputy [REDACTED] said he was working with a ride-along from Men's Central Jail. The ride-along (Deputy Cenderelli) had partnered with Deputy [REDACTED] on at least five other occasions. They discussed tactics prior to going out on patrol. For this domestic violence call they were authorized to respond with lights and siren. As they arrived they could hear yelling and banging coming from the upstairs apartment. They could see three males and two females in apartment [REDACTED]. As they reached the front door Deputy [REDACTED] could smell a strong odor of alcohol emitting from the room. He called [REDACTED] to walk toward him.

[REDACTED] complied and Deputy [REDACTED], after briefly checking him for weapons, handed him to Deputy Hancock who was now on the upstairs landing. Deputy [REDACTED] asked Suspect Martinez to step toward him. Suspect Martinez, although belligerent, complied and began to walk over.

Suspect Martinez stopped walking as Suspect Reyes continued yelling. Deputy [REDACTED] stepped into the apartment and told Suspect Martinez to turn around. Deputy [REDACTED] told Suspect Martinez to place his arms behind his back; Suspect Martinez complied. Deputy [REDACTED] was going to search Suspect Martinez for weapons prior to escorting him downstairs. As Deputy [REDACTED] took hold of Suspect Martinez' left arm, Suspect Reyes began yelling "get the fuck out of my apartment." Suspect Martinez in response to Suspect Reyes yelling, pulled his right arm away from Deputy [REDACTED] and attempted to pull away from him.

Deputy [REDACTED] maintained control of Suspect Martinez' left arm. He then placed his right hand on Suspect Martinez' back and pushed him down onto the floor. Suspect Martinez was guided to the floor and landed on his chest. Deputy [REDACTED] placed handcuffs on Suspect Martinez without further incident. Deputy Quezada helped Suspect Martinez off the floor to escort him out of the apartment.

While Deputy [REDACTED] was involved with Suspect Martinez, he observed Deputy Cenderelli take control of Suspect Reyes who, had been cussing at the deputies. Deputy Cenderelli had placed Suspect Reyes hands behind his back and was holding them in a firm grip. Deputy [REDACTED] told Deputy Cenderelli to take Suspect Reyes downstairs and he would take Suspect Martinez. Deputy [REDACTED] wanted to separate the men from the women to determine if a crime had occurred.

Deputy [REDACTED] followed Deputy Cenderelli downstairs. As Deputy Cenderelli reached the bottom of the stairs, Deputy [REDACTED] saw Suspect Reyes shifting his weight to the left and right attempting to break free from Deputy Cenderelli's grasp. Suspect Reyes suddenly broke free, turned, and punched several times at Deputy Cenderelli's face and chest.

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Having observed Suspect Reyes punch at Deputy Cenderelli, Deputy [REDACTED] placed Suspect Martinez against the exterior wall of the downstairs outdoor washroom and ordered him not to move. Deputy [REDACTED] went over to assist Deputy Cenderelli and remembers Deputy [REDACTED] being near Suspect Reyes; however, he could not explain what Deputy [REDACTED] was doing, because he was concerned with the safety of Deputy Cenderelli. Deputy [REDACTED] remembers Deputy [REDACTED] placing his hands on Suspect Reyes but could not be sure what he did. Deputy Cenderelli and Deputy [REDACTED] took Suspect Reyes to the ground.

Suspect Reyes put his hands to his chest as he was laying face down and refused to cooperate with the deputies' commands. Suspect Reyes was kicking his feet and moving his body from left to right. Deputy [REDACTED] reached under Suspect Reyes' body and pulled his left arm out from underneath his body. He placed the left arm behind Suspect Reyes' back and helped Deputy Cenderelli and Deputy Zimmerman gain control of Suspect Reyes' right arm. Together they were able to place both hands behind Suspect Reyes' back and handcuff him without further incident.

Deputy [REDACTED] estimated the incident took approximately three seconds to gain control of Suspect Reyes from the time he was taken to the ground and safely handcuffed.

SUSPECT STATEMENTS:

Suspect Edwin Martinez was interviewed while at Century Station by Sergeant Navarrete. Suspect Martinez said he had been drinking two or three beers with his friend. He said he was coming out of his friend's apartment when he was ganged up on by three deputies. He was then hit and thrown to the ground by the deputies. The deputies handcuffed him and led him away. Sergeant Navarrete asked him if he had been in a verbal confrontation with the deputies. Suspect Martinez replied "No, I did." Suspect Martinez said he had no injuries and the interview was terminated. (**Refer to Exhibit E**)

Suspect Christopher Reyes continued to be uncooperative after his arrest and refused to be interviewed. Attempts to interview Suspect Reyes were met with resistance. I left four messages from the week of January 10 through January 26.

I received a telephone call from Suspect Reyes on January 27, 2012. He advised me he had been working and was unable to return my calls. He reluctantly agreed to an interview on January 30, 2012 (12:30 p.m.).

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I received a telephone call from Suspect Reyes on January 30, 2012 (10:00 a.m.). He said he was working a double shift and would not be able to be interviewed on this date. I told him I had a few questions and the interview would not take long. He said he did not wish to be interviewed or recorded because the matter had been taken care of in court.

I spoke with Suspect Reyes further and assured him our conversation would not be recorded. He agreed to speak with me. He said he had been drinking with his friends in his apartment. His [REDACTED] was mad because he did not have a job and was drinking. The [REDACTED] called Suspect Reyes' [REDACTED] and told her to pick up Suspect Reyes.

Suspect Reyes' [REDACTED] responded with his [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. He was in the process of leaving when he was confronted by the deputies. He said he questioned the deputies why they were there. Also, he was upset because they took him out of his apartment. As he was walking down the stairs, his hand came loose and he turned to ask the deputy why he was being held.

The deputy took him to the ground and he broke his arm. He said he never hit the deputy but was hit repeatedly by unknown deputies. He said during his trial he was not convicted of assault on a peace officer, he had been convicted of resisting arrest based on statements from his neighbor. Suspect Reyes said that was all he wanted to say and terminated the conversation. The conversation was not recorded or transcribed.

SUSPECT INJURIES:

Suspect Martinez did not complain of injury and was not treated for any injuries.

Suspect Reyes sustained a fracture to his right arm and a contusion to the right side of his face (eye). (Refer to Exhibit C)

DEPUTY PERSONNEL INJURIES:

None

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

No physical evidence was collected at the scene.

INVESTIGATORS' OBSERVATIONS:

No observations.

WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:

Personal weapons: Hands.

WEAPONS USED BY SUBJECT:

Personal weapons: Hands and feet.

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PROPERTY DAMAGE:

None.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR and CHARGES FILED:

Investigator: Century Detective Samuel Valente.

Charges Filed: Case was presented to the District Attorney Michael Derosé of Compton Court Dept. 8. He filed 242 P.C. and 243 PC, case # 1CP04466. (Refer to **Miscellaneous Documents**)

WEATHER AND LIGHTING CONDITIONS:

Clear Sunny day.

MISCELLANEOUS:

None.